



## BUSINESS NOTICES.

Subscribers who do not file the *Era*, and have numbers 249, 261, 262, and 264, on hand, will confer a favor by remailing them to this office, at our expense.

We are frequently called upon for missing numbers, which we always endeavor to supply; but should our friends not receive them, they may conclude we have none on hand.

No receipts are sent from this office. As our terms are strictly cash in advance, the receipt of the paper will be a sufficient acknowledgment that the money has been received.

## WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1852.

**THE MURDER TRIAL.**—William Wells, a marine, recently tried in this city for the murder of young Mundell, by shooting, has been found guilty. Judge Crawford, on the 9th instant, sentenced him to be hung on the 22d of April next. The Marshal for the District is designated to carry the sentence into execution. \*

**THE NEW BRITISH MINISTER.**—He is officially announced that John F. Crampton has been appointed his Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States. Sir Henry L. Bulwer has been appointed Minister to the Grand Duke of Tuscany.

**THE DECREE IN THE FOREST DIVORCE CASE.**—Judge Oakley has ordered a decree to be entered in this case, dissolving the marriage to Mrs. F. to be at liberty to marry again, but Mr. F. not to marry again during the lifetime of Mrs. F.; awarding to Mrs. F. \$3,000 a year alimony during her natural life, to date from the commencement of the suit. \*

The Black Swan draws crowds to have beer in Boston. The Commonwealth states that at her first concert the Melodeon was crowded to excess, and adds: \*

"As to her singing, we need only say that the audience seemed to be fascinated with it, recalling her by frequent applause after every note. The Scotch in Boston, Mr. Anderson Jr., and What's-her-Name, the Queen, sang with great sweetness and richness of tone. The great compass of her voice, and the strength and clearness of the very lowest notes, have been a subject of such general admiration that they need no comments from us."

## WATER.

The city of Washington is not beautifully supplied with this necessary article. The recent fire, at the Capitol and other localities, demonstrate that something should be done speedily to supply this great want. We perceive that Messrs. P. G. Washington, John C. Fr. Salem, and W. Soden, have made a proposition to the City Councils to supply this city and Georgetown with water. They say:

"To propose to construct a dam across the Potowmico river, at some proper point between Georgetown and the city, so as to furnish power sufficient to pump the water from the river to the highest point on the summit of Georgetown. This point, where we propose to construct the dam, is situated about one hundred and eighty feet above the sea. By this means water can be brought into the city of Washington at an elevation of one hundred and forty-five feet above the summit of the Capitol, and all the water that would secure to the Capital the amount of water now used, which water can furnish. Pipes with proper cocks can be fixed in every room which the Government or a private individual shall desire to use. The public edifices and establishments which will require the largest quantity of water are the Capital, the President's House, and grounds about it, the several Executive Departments, and General Post Office, the Smithsonian Institution, the Arsenal, the Naval Observatory, and the Court-house and Jail."

"There are also many public squares and reservoirs in various portions of Washington, the Imperial Hotel, where water is used, and will require a supply of water as the Government does not. Fancy ornaments of the aqueduct order, such as jets d'eau, can be constructed at reduced cost. By this means the water of the Capital, the President's House, and grounds about it, the several Executive Departments, and General Post Office, the Smithsonian Institution, the Arsenal, the Naval Observatory, and the Court-house and Jail."

"They have also presented a memorial to Congress on the subject. We hope the enterprise may succeed." \*

**MILLARD FILMORE** appears to be the favorite of Southern Whigs. He is everywhere receiving the nomination of their Conventions.

**CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING.**—Mr. Doty has introduced a bill into the House of Representatives, providing that Congress shall do its own printing; that is, appoint a public printer directly responsible, and unconnected with the public press. The plan of giving out the printing to the lowest bidder has proved a failure thus far. The work has been soundly delayed, or meanly performed.

The contractor adopts a niggardly economy to save himself from loss by his low prices, or to make money by the job. We speak generally, without special reference to the present contractor.

The old plan of giving the printing to a party press will hardly be restored. It would open the door to incalculable waste and corruption.

We are glad the proposition of Mr. Doty has been introduced. We are not decided in our views respecting it, but it ought to be considered. There may be objections to it, rendering its adoption undesirable; but, really, some plan yet tried, to secure the printing of Congress without delay and in good, substantial style, ought to be devised.

**W. D. GALLAGHER.**—We find in the *New York Sun* the following notice of a lecture lately delivered in New York, by our friend Gallagher, formerly of Cincinnati, and of Washington:

"*Lectures for the People.*—Third of the Course.—Last evening, at the Tabernacle Broadway, Mr. W. D. Gallagher, of Ohio, delivered the third lecture in his series, on the subject 'Modern Poets and their Critics.' Having selected, by way of explanation, the lectures intended to be delivered to the question so glibly put and rarely answered, 'What is Poetry?' and in the course of his discussion, had given a severe censure to the writers and editors of our metropolitan, who took upon them to denounce it as jingling rhytme, without sense and meaning. His own apprehension of poetry was this: 'It is the language of the soul and the affections, as prose was the passions and necessities.'

Having amplified in a most elegant manner

on this point, he passed in review the poems and poetical efforts of the most modern writers, and stoutly contended for equality, if not superiority, for the productions of the latter, being utterly at a loss to understand why the first named should be extolled. He made no effort to sustain the laudatory efforts of the former, who took upon them to denounce it as jingling rhytme, without sense and meaning. His own apprehension of poetry was this: 'It is the language of the soul and the affections, as prose was the passions and necessities.'

He was greatly moved by the eloquent and forcible speech of Mr. Doty, and the

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